


 RACKET SQUAD
No 18

RACKET SQUAD

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COMICS
CODE

AUTHORITY

A CHARLTON PUBLICATION

5-5

IN ACTION



[illegible]

AMAZING OFFER

**DO YOU NEED
EXTRA
MONEY?
\$35.00
IS YOURS**

for selling only 50 boxes of
our 300 Christmas card
line. And this can be done
in a single day. Free samples.
Other boxes on approval.
Mail coupon below today.

It costs you nothing to try.

Last year some folks made \$250—\$500—\$1,000
and more this very way. Church groups and organ-
izations can do this, too. No experience necessary.



**FREE
SAMPLES
PERSONALIZED
CHRISTMAS CARDS
and STATIONERY**

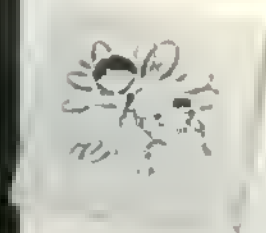
CHEERFUL CARD COMPANY, Dept. 113, White Plains, New York



**BEST WISHES
ALL OCCASION
ASSORTMENT**
21 luxurious cards—
including gold bronzing,
dainty hand finishing,
matching postal envelopes



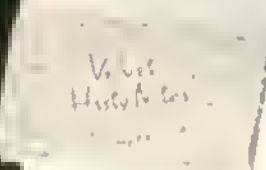
**LOTS OF LAFFS
HUMOROUS EVERYDAY
ASSORTMENT**
Novel animated cards
—including original cut outs,
3 dimensional pop out
features, bell attachments
and 36 novelty card



**DELUXE EVERYDAY
GIFT WRAPPING ENSEMBLE**
20 large multi-color
20 x 30 sheets in a
fascinating variety of
designs—plus matching
seals and gift tags



**TALL BEAUTIES
ALL OCCASION
ASSORTMENT**
Beautifully styled
and delightfully different—
all gold bronzed
and embossed



**VELVET
HASTY NOTES**
French folders with
friendly messages
on front in luminous
rose and blue
velvety flocking



**BLOSSOM TIME
STATIONERY ENSEMBLE**
Embossed floral design
with gold bronzing
dainty scalloped borders
ribbon tied

Mail This Free Trial Coupon Today
CHEERFUL CARD COMPANY
Dept. 113, White Plains, New York

Please rush free samples, other boxes on approval
for FREE TRIAL and full details of your easy money
making plan

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

If writing for organ-
ization, give its name _____

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

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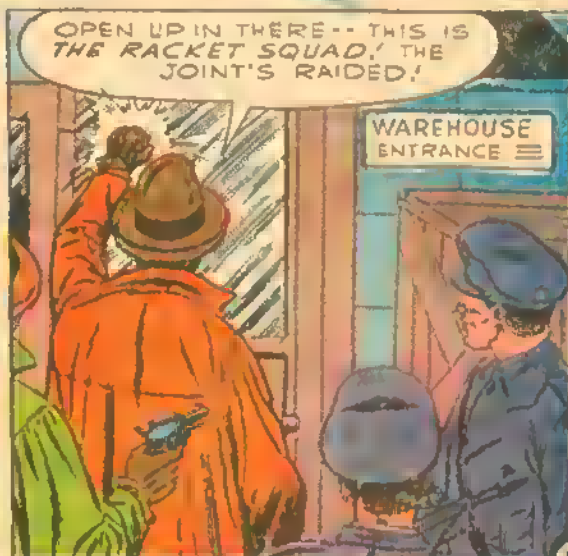
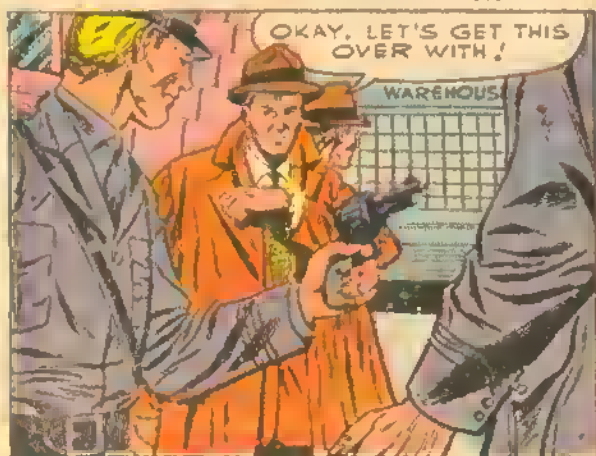
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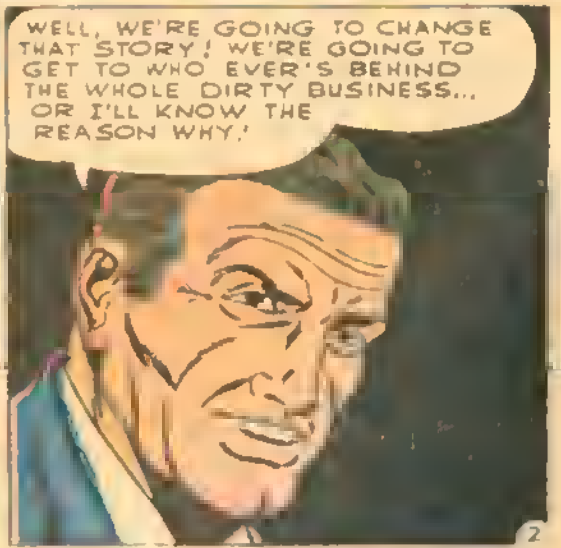
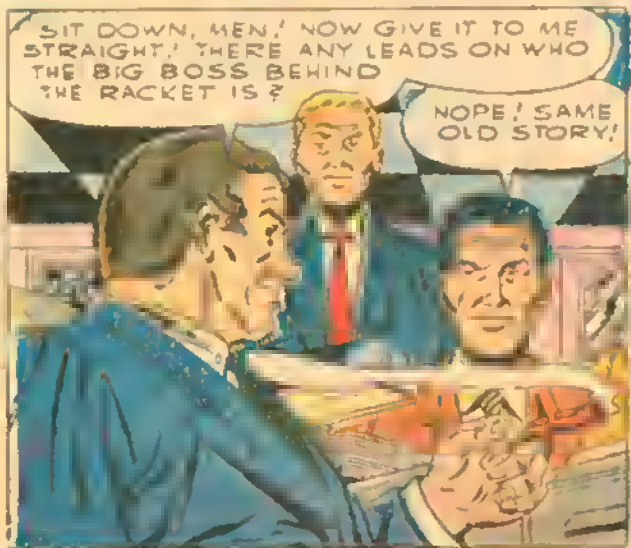
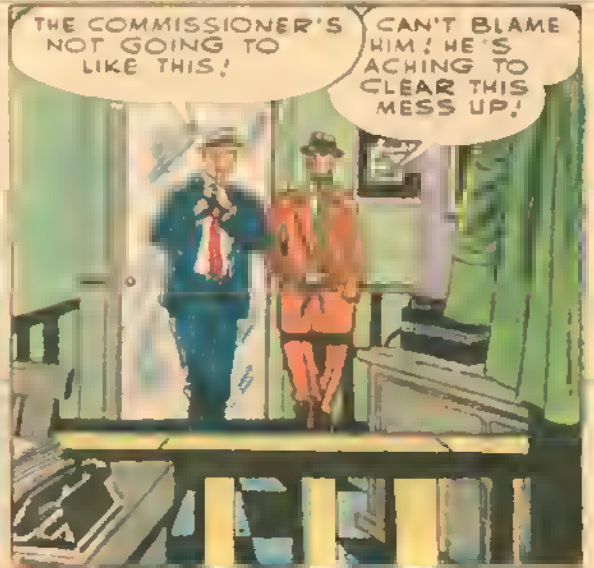
The AWFUL WASTE



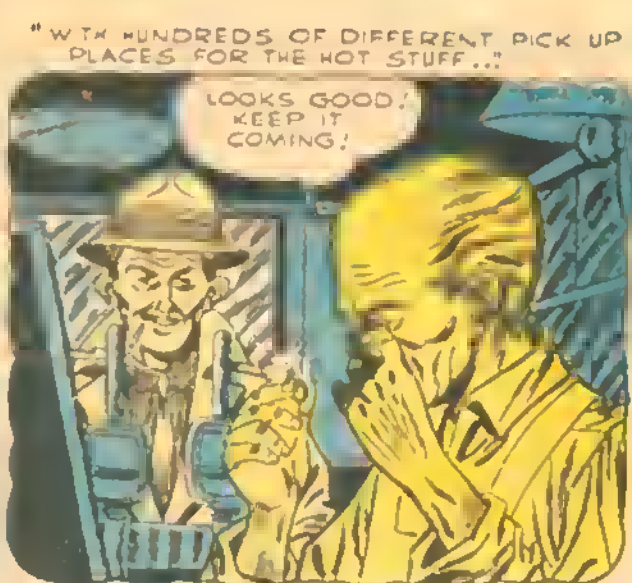
IT WAS A HOT AUGUST NIGHT--WE WERE SWEATING, BUT WE HAD TO WEAR COATS-- MEN WITH SHOULDER HOLSTERS ALWAYS WEAR COATS...



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



"HE EVEN HAS A REGULAR PAYROLL OF HEIST MEN WHO WORK FOR SO MUCH A WEEK..."

"HE HAS DOZENS OF WAREHOUSES SPOTTED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, THERE IS NO LIMIT TO WHAT HE STOCKS, HE'LL TAKE ANYTHING THAT COMES HIS WAY..."



"WE'VE PULLED RAID AFTER RAID--CLOSED UP ONE WAREHOUSE AFTER THE OTHER..."

"WE'VE SENT HUNDREDS OF HIS MEN TO JAIL! AND THEY'VE ALL COME CLEAN... EVERY ONE OF THEM HAS TOLD US ALL HE KNOWS! BUT NOT ONE COULD TELL US WHO THE MAN ON TOP IS..."



AMERICA'S
GREATEST

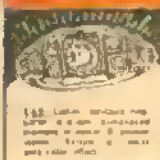


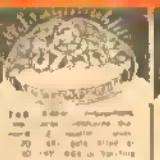




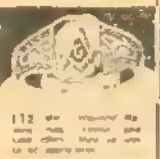

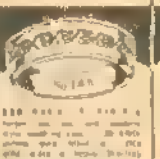







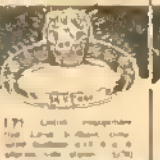

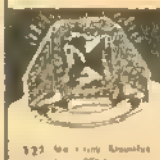

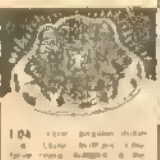


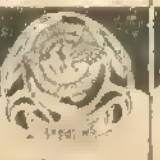

For Engagement Wedding

RING BARGAINS

ONLY
74
EACH

HAREM CO. 10 Church St. Dept. 0454 New York 7, N.Y.

More than 100 American-made rings, each featuring a different design, are available at this special price. The rings are made of 14K gold and feature a variety of gemstones, including diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds. The rings are available in sizes 4 to 10 and are guaranteed to be of the highest quality.

 155. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 170. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 186. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 191. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 198. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 250. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 266. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.
 276. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 300. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 312. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 321. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 330. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 350. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 366. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.
 380. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 392. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 415. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 416. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 423. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 471. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 470. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.
 522. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 541. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 594. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 608. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 622. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 644. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 671. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.

SIMULINE LEATHER WALLET

Stitching From East & West - 100% Genuine Leather



This wallet is made of 100% genuine leather and features a variety of compartments for your money, cards, and keys. It is available in a variety of colors and designs, and is guaranteed to be of the highest quality.

A REG. \$1.00 VALUE
ONLY \$1.74



SEND NO MONEY! RUSH CONVENIENT ORDER COUPON NOW!

10-DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

 129. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 163. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 189. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 194. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 251. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.
 302. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 365. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 440. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 451. Men's diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.	 451. Ladies' diamond ring with a large central diamond and two smaller diamonds on the shoulders. 14K gold. \$74.00.

HAREM CO. (The House of Rings)
30 Church St. Dept. 0454 New York 7, N.Y.

These are the rings you will receive if you order within 10 days of the date of this coupon.

Send me the following rings: ☐ Ring 129 ☐ Ring 163 ☐ Ring 189 ☐ Ring 194 ☐ Ring 251

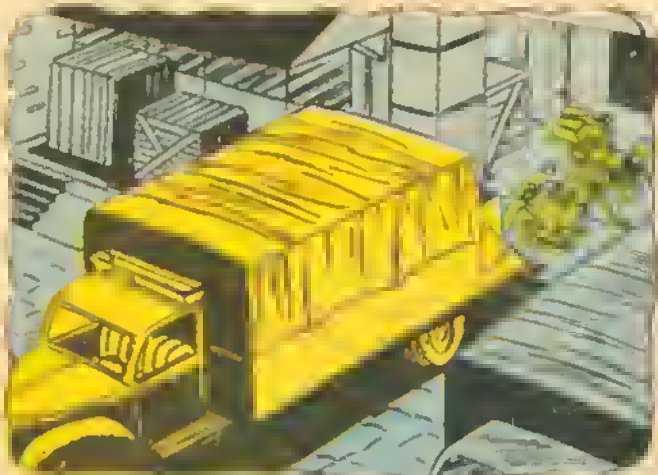
☐ I am enclosing \$1.74 for the rings. ☐ I am enclosing \$1.74 for the rings. ☐ I am enclosing \$1.74 for the rings.

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

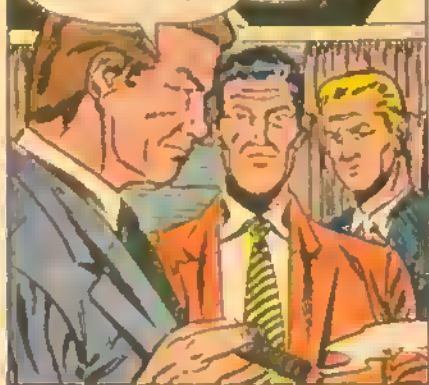
"AND EVERY TIME WE CLOSE DOWN A WAREHOUSE, ANOTHER ONE POPS UP SOMEWHERE ELSE... AND **HE**... WHOEVER HE IS... IS IN BUSINESS AGAIN..."



IT JUST DOESN'T ADD UP! WHOEVER HE IS, HE'S BEEN ROLLING ALONG FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS NOW! BIG MONEY'S BEEN HEADING HIS WAY! WE'VE HAD THE TAX MEN WORKING WITH US, OPERATIVES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO WATCH OUT FOR BIG SPENDERS! BUT THERE'S BEEN NO LEAD TO HIM YET!



ONLY ONE THING LEFT FOR US TO DO, WE'LL HAVE TO WORK FROM THE INSIDE! WE'LL HAVE TO GET ONE OF OUR MEN TO JOIN THE RACKET--AND GET TO THE TOP MAN THAT WAY!



UNDERCOVER WORK MEANT WE HAD TO IMPORT A MAN FROM ANOTHER CITY-- SOMEBODY WHO COULDN'T BE FINGERED AS A POLICE OPERATIVE...

HENDRICK OF FALL CITY!

GODO! HERE'RE SOME PAPERS YOU'LL NEED! REPORT TO ME HERE SAME TIME, SAME DAY ONCE A WEEK!



HENDRICK WAS A FAST WORKER BUT IT TOOK HIM OVER A MONTH TO MAKE HIS FIRST CONTACT...

I'M BUSTED, PAL-- BUT I'M LOADED WITH HOT STUFF! YOU WOULDN'T KNOW A RIGHT JOHN WHO COULD CASH IT FOR ME, WOULD YOU?

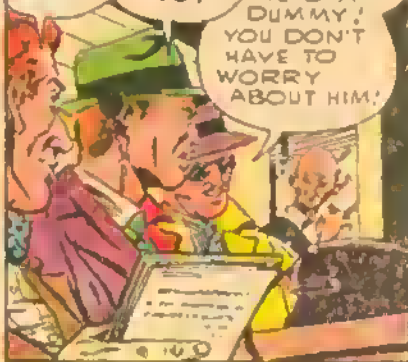
MAYBE-- COME ALONG!



HOW DO WE KNOW YOU'RE ON THE LEVEL?

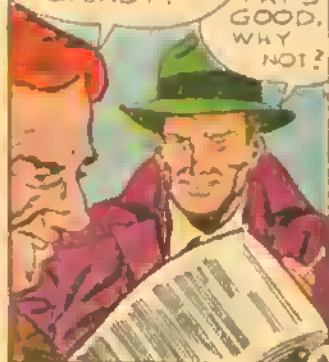
WANT TO SEE MY CLIPPINGS? HEY, WAIT A SEC-- WHO'S **HE**?

THAT'S POP, HE SWEEPS UP AROUND HERE! HE'S A DUMMY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM!

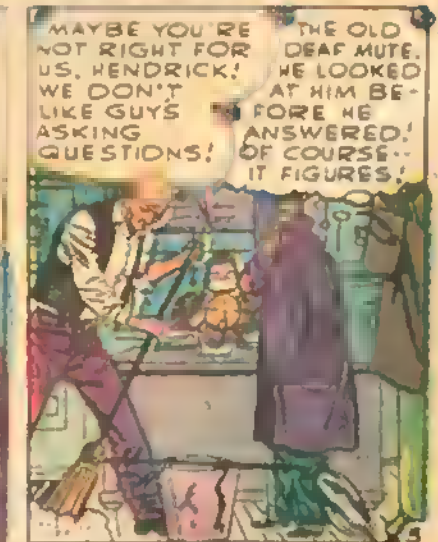
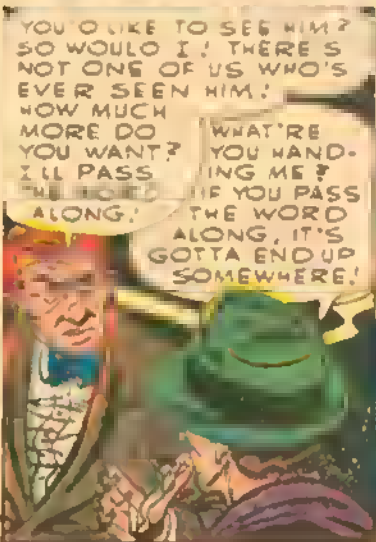
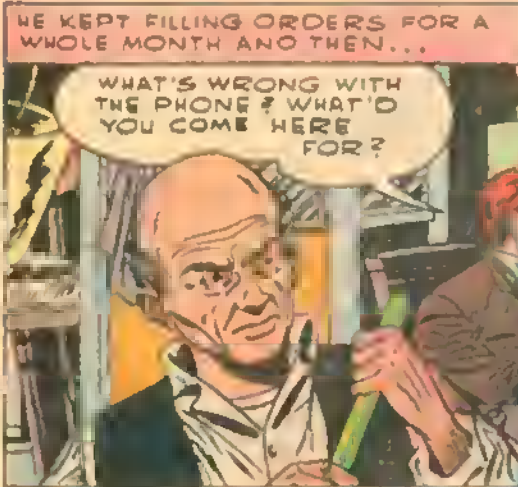


MMMM-- YOU'VE SERVED PLENTY OF TIME ALL RIGHT! A REAL HEIST MAN-- HUH? HOW'D YOU LIKE TO WORK STEADY?

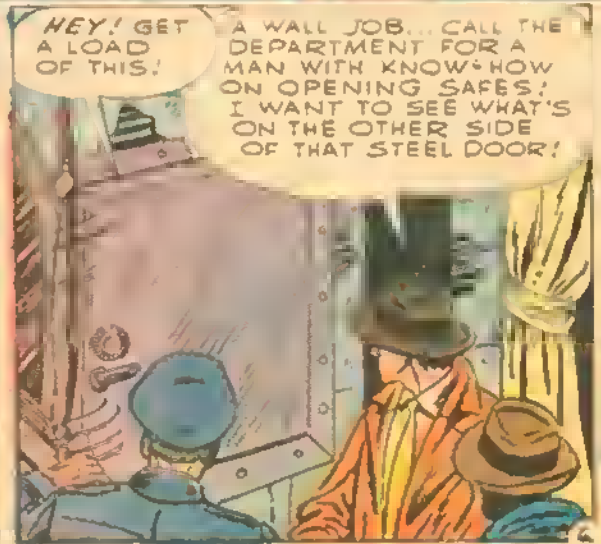
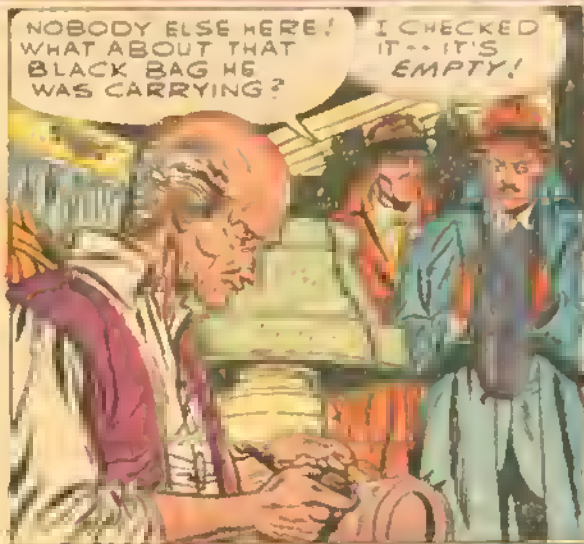
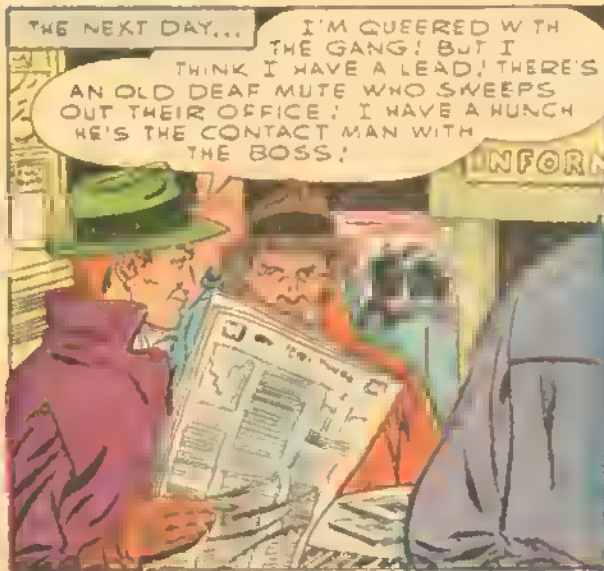
IF THE PAY'S GOOD, WHY NOT?



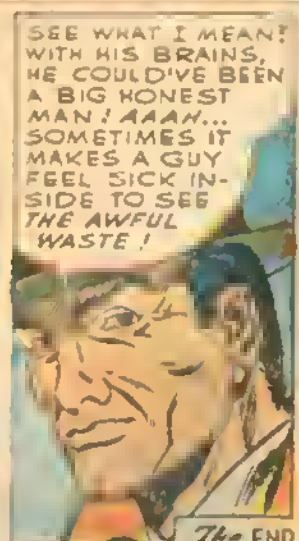
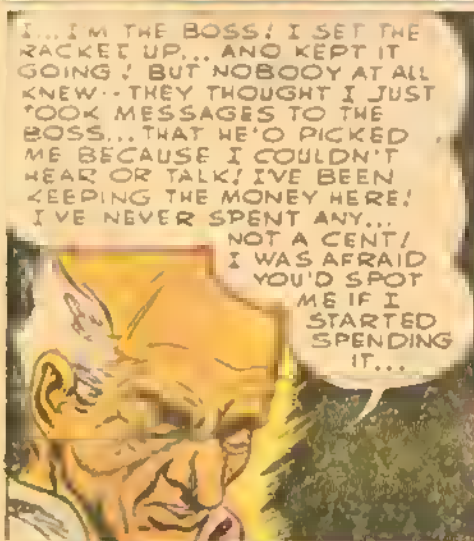
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



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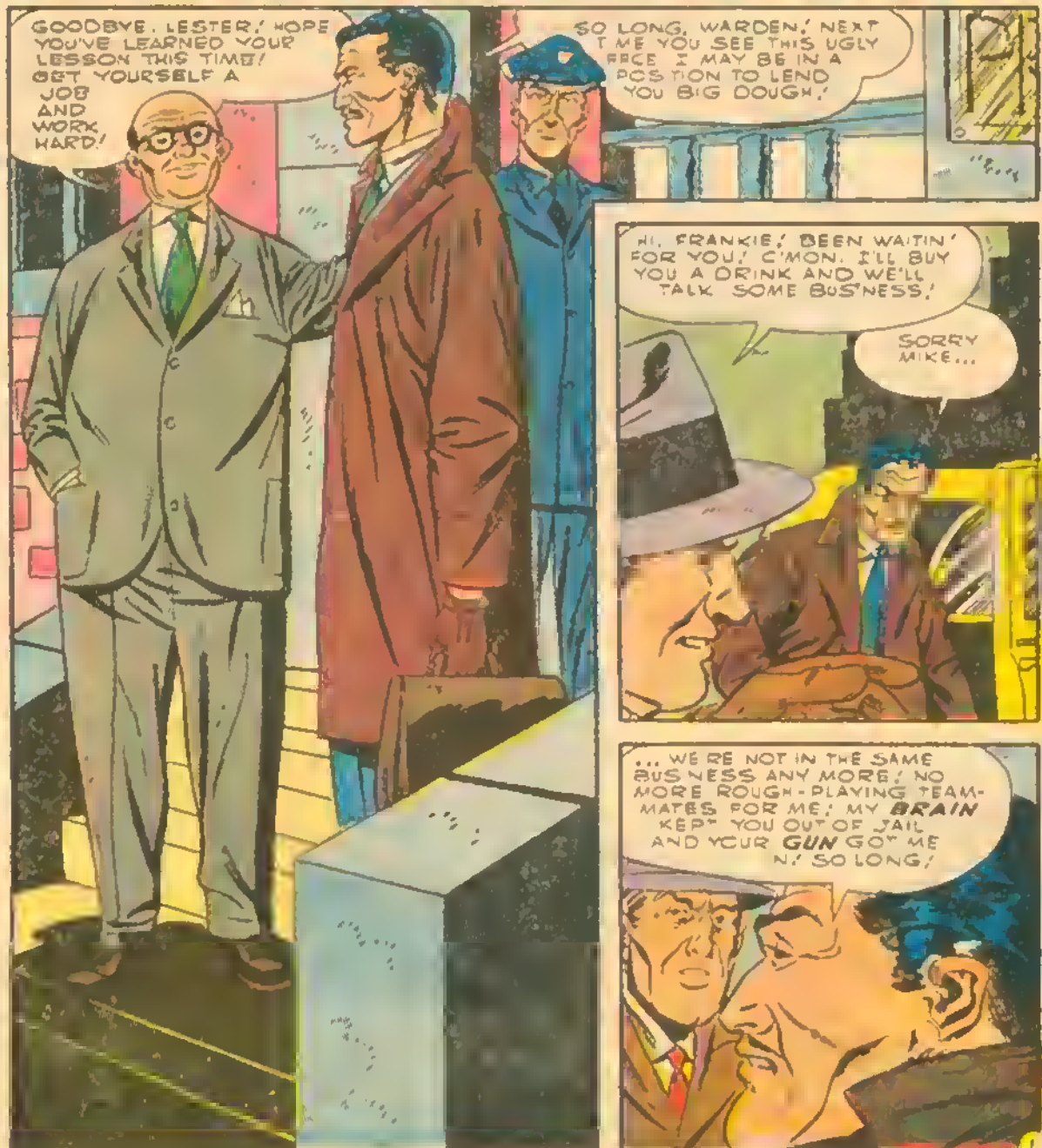


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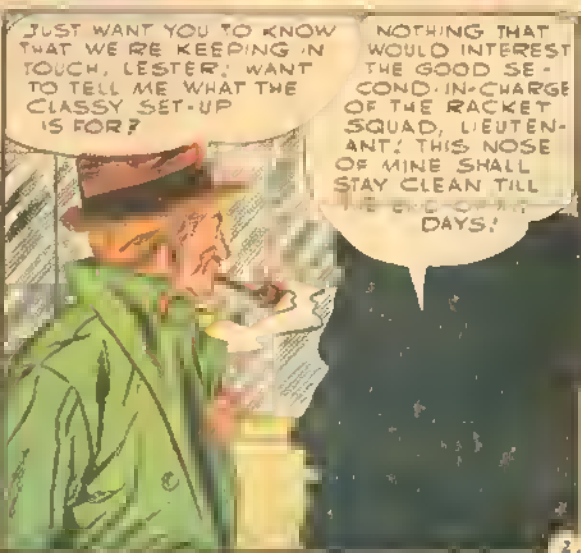
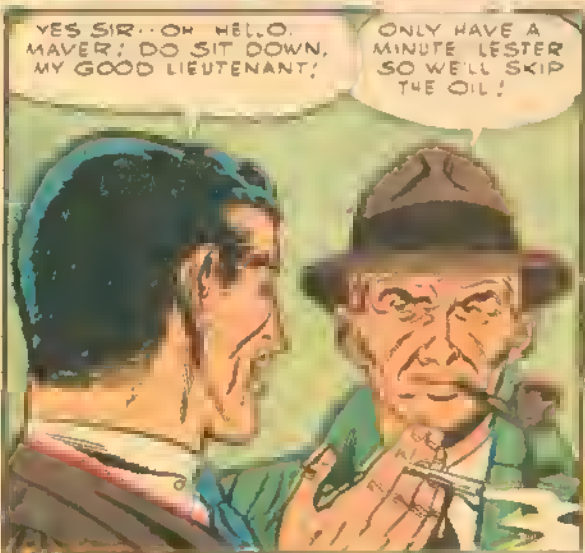
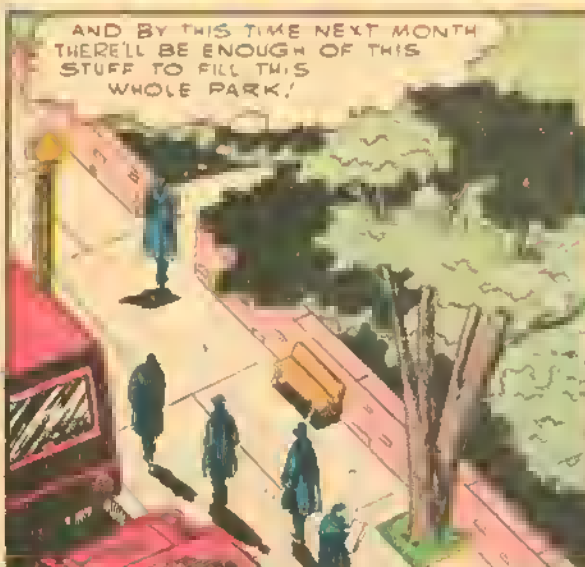
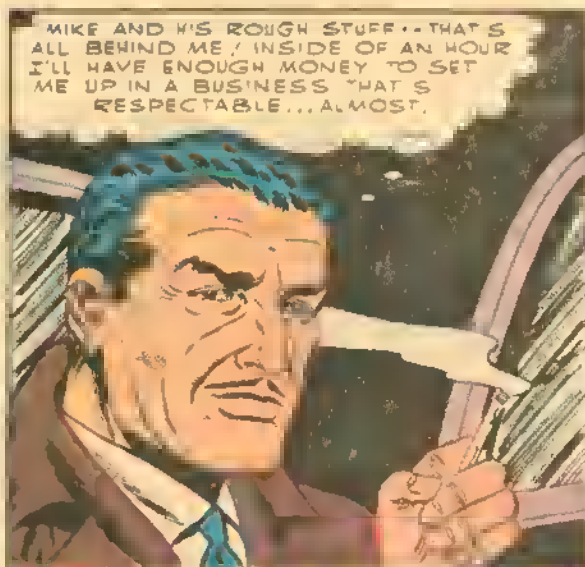
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE BEEN WALKED OUT OF THESE STEEL DOORS BY A POMPOUS FOOL OF A WARDEN, NOR IS THIS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE BEEN HANDED AN ENVELOPE CONTAINING TEN DOLLARS, LIKE SOME KID LEAVING FOR SCHOOL! NO, **FRANK LESTER**, THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME, BUT IT'LL BE THE LAST! YOU'VE DECIDED THAT...

THIS TIME YOU'LL PLAY IT SMART



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

SO THE RACKET COP SKIDOOOS! WHAT ELSE CAN HE DO? THERE'S NOTHING HERE FOR HIM TO PUT A FINGER ON...YET...

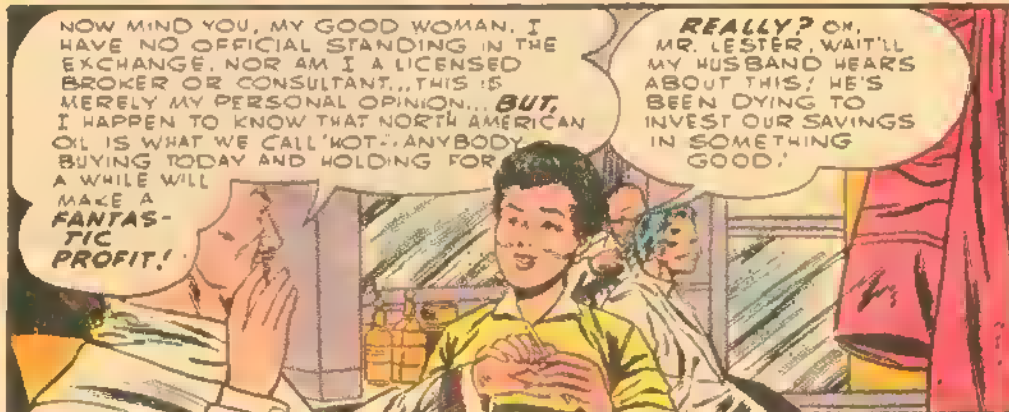


THAT'S ONE DETECTIVE I'LL NEVER SEE AGAIN! IN THIS BUSINESS OF MINE THERE'LL BE NO **ROUGH STUFF**-- AND IT'S ONLY **ROUGH STUFF** THAT BRINGS HIM RUNNING!

YOUR NEXT STEP, LESTER, IS TO GET YOURSELF A REP AS A BIG SHOT... A WHEEL... A "MAN ABOUT THE MARKET" WHOSE FLASHING BANKROLL "PROVES" HE'S MADE PLENTY...



AND THEN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT REP BY SPREADING SOME INTERESTING INFORMATION AROUND TOWN...



NOW MIND YOU, MY GOOD WOMAN, I HAVE NO OFFICIAL STANDING IN THE EXCHANGE, NOR AM I A LICENSED BROKER OR CONSULTANT...THIS IS MERELY MY PERSONAL OPINION... **BUT**, I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT NORTH AMERICAN OIL IS WHAT WE CALL 'HOT'. ANYBODY BUYING TODAY AND HOLDING FOR A WHILE WILL MAKE A **FANTASTIC PROFIT!**

REALLY? OH, MR. LESTER, WAIT! MY HUSBAND HEARS ABOUT THIS! HE'S BEEN DYING TO INVEST OUR SAVINGS IN SOMETHING GOOD!



BY NIGHTFALL OF THAT SAME DAY, LESTER, NORTH AMERICAN OIL HAD BEEN BOOSTED WAY, WAY UP BY THE FRENZIED BUYING--AND **YOU**, ONE OF IT'S PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS HAD MADE A SMALL FORTUNE...

THAT'S CORRECT MR. YOUNG! I WISH TO **SELL** ALL MY NORTH AMERICAN HOLDINGS AT ONCE!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

YOU'RE FLUSHED WITH VICTORY, LESTER--AND IT WAS SO EASY! SO YOU SELECT ANOTHER MORIBUND OIL COMPANY--AND THE ANOTHER...



EVERYBODY LIKES TO BOAST A LITTLE, LESTER, EVEN YOU! SO WHEN YOU HAPPEN TO MEET MIKE AGAIN, YOU'RE HAPPY, GENUINELY HAPPY TO SEE HIM...

NICE SEEING YOU AGAIN, BOY, AND I'LL BUY YOU A DRINK!

HEY! YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE MADE IT! WHAT YOU BEEN DOING?



AFTER A DRINK OR TWO, LESTER, MIKE ASKS YOU TO EXPLAIN YOUR GIMMICK, WHICH YOU GLADLY DO. AFTER ALL, IT'S LEGAL, ISN'T IT? NOT ETHICAL... BUT STILL LEGAL...

SEE HIM? THAT'S JOSHUA COURTNEY--A MIDDLE-INCOME JOE WITH A YEN TO BE RICH! HE'S A SUCKER FOR MARKET TIPS--IN FACT MY **SPECIAL** SUCKER, ALWAYS GOOD FOR A

YOU MEAN EVEN IF HE GETS BURNED... HE DOESN'T LEARN!

LEAD THE BUYING PARADE!



HE'S BEEN BURNED SO OFTEN, HE'S CRISPY IN THE HEAD! WATCH **THIS!**

WHY MR LESTER, HOW ARE YOU, SIR? ER... AH... ANYTHING GOOD ON THE MARKET THIS AFTERNOON?



NOW HE GOES AND BUYS THIS **POLAR OIL STOCK** YOU TOUT HIM ON? AND TELLS OTHER SHMOES TO BUY IT, TOO?

RIGHT, I OF COURSE UNLOAD ALL MY HOLDINGS AFTER THE RUMOR SPREADS THAT IT'S HOT, AND MAKE A NEAT PROFIT! SIMPLE, EASY... AND DEFINITELY NOT **ROUGH!** NO SIR, NO ROUGH STUFF FOR ME! SEE YOU AROUND, MIKE!





Boys! Girls!
Men!
Women!

Do You Want Up to \$50 or \$100 EXTRA MONEY?

Here's A QUICK EASY WAY TO GET IT!

SEND NO MONEY

We Ship 24 Beautiful Super Size Religious Wall Mottos on Credit — Friends, Neighbors and Others BUY ON SIGHT!

What a truly glorious opportunity. Just mail coupon below with name and address... Send No Money... and we will send you 24 big size richly decorated Religious Wall Mottos on credit. They sell like wild-fire at just 35c each. Friends, neighbors buy the instant you show them. Many buy six or more... enough for every room in the house. These are thrilling beautiful golden Mottos... shimmering and glittering in the light. They work night and day to remind all who see

them of the Lord's Work. When you have sold the 24 Mottos, simply send the \$8.40 you have collected and you may have either your choice of many beautiful prizes (we include big Free Prize catalog with shipment) or send only \$6.00 and keep all the rest of the money for yourself! You can do good, and help crush graft, sin, greed, corruption by spreading the word of the Lord. At the same time, you can make MONEY, earn Prizes selling Religious Mottos. Send no money. Rush coupon today!



FREE Big Prize Catalog!



Many take prizes instead of money. We include big FREE PRIZE Catalog that tells you how you can win the 11 Funman's Cameras, Ray Guns, Snow Goggles, Musical Watches, Radio Guitars, Sports Equipment, Fishing Kits, Zipper Sleeping Bags, Airway Bags, Jewelry, also Remingtons, Chamberlains, Typewriters, Simplex Typewriters, Weta Tablets, Model Cars, Roller Skates, Tool Chests. Every one approved and recommended by the FUNMAN. Yes, dozens and dozens of wonderful prizes. Send no money, but mail coupon now!



FREE
Membership in
the FUNMAN'S
Fun Club!

If you will mottos and send payment within 15 days you receive FREE membership in the FUNMAN'S Fun Club. Get a membership card, certificate, big packet of 100 mottos! PLUS extra surprises. Rush coupon NOW!

The FUNMAN, Dept. X-109,
5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Ill.

FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG

Please rush to me on 15 days credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos to sell at 35c each. Also include big Free Catalog FREE. I will remit amount required as explained under description of prizes in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 15 days and select the prize I want or keep a cash commission as explained.

NAME..... AGE.....
STREET or RFD.....
TOWN..... Zone..... STATE.....

The FUNMAN
Dept. X-109,
5726 N. Broadway
Chicago 40, Illinois

MAIL THIS!
It's YOUR valuable
FREE coupon!

GIVE TO A FRIEND!
He'll thank you
for the big favor!

GIVE THIS COUPON to A FRIEND

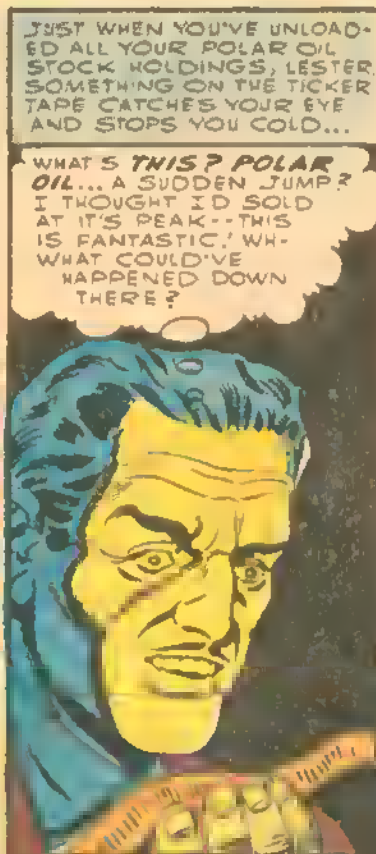
The FUNMAN, Dept. X-109,
5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Ill.

FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG

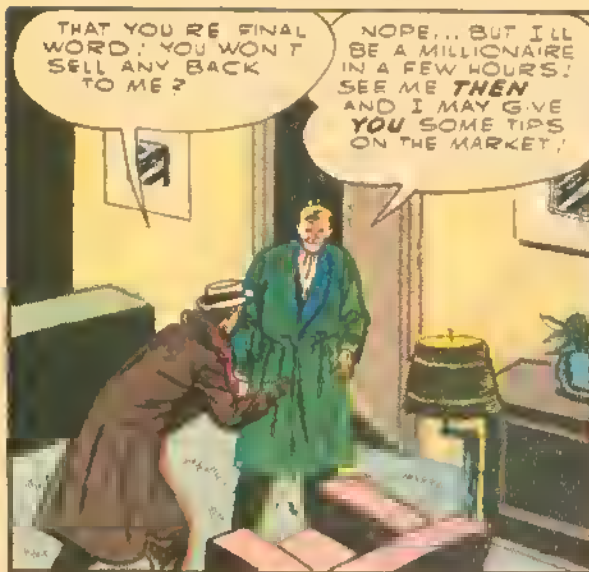
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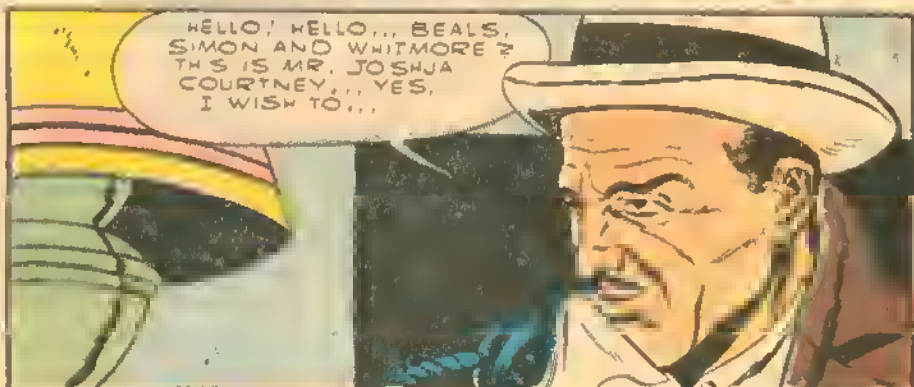
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



IT STILL LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT TURN OUT ALL RIGHT FOR YOU AGAIN, EH LESTER? HAD TO RESORT TO A LITTLE ROUGH STUFF, THOUGH DIDN'T YOU? BUT A MAN LIKE COURTNEY WAS BORN TO BE SHOVED AROUND. WASN'T HE?





DON'T BE A SUCKER

"To my knowledge," stated Griff the Grifter, "there is just one thing on the carnival lot that isn't gaffed — and that thing is the Ferris Wheel. But," he added this with a solemn nod, "if anybody asked me to bet a buck on which car would be at the bottom of the Ferris Wheel when it stops, I wouldn't take a chance. I'd know then that somebody had figured a gaff for the thing. Otherwise, nobody would be offering to put up moola."

"Ever hear of a racket?" queried Griff. "Well, the carnival biz is the original racket. Back when I first came with it — that's going on forty years now — we used to say 'He's in the racket' whenever we referred to another carney."

"We went along. A blatant cry greeted us: 'Pop 'em in the bucket! Pop 'em in the bucket!' The bucket in question was slanted in back of a counter that was stocked with cheap baseballs and the idea very obviously was to toss a ball into the bucket without having it bounce out. There were three of these buckets in a line and three players were trying to sink baseballs with easy, underhand lobbs."

So easy, you just couldn't miss.

That was how it looked, but not how it worked out. The players were placing them in the buckets, but the balls wouldn't stay. Always one popped out, usually the third and last. "Too bad," the grifter behind the counter would say. "Close, but no cigar! No prize this time, but better luck next time!" Only next time, the player invariably missed one ball again.

"I do not have to be a mind reader," declared Griff as he led us on our way, "to reveal your thoughts concerning the bucket game."

You are thinking that the player must get nervous on the final ball and that is why he misses.

The truth is," stated Griff, "that the operator gets careful. He steps on a pedal alongside the bucket platform and a second bottom presses up against the bucket. The double bottom is tight as a drum and a ball is sure to bounce out when it hits there. Cute, the way the grifter stands close to root that last ball home, like he really wanted the chump to win for once. He has to stand close to step on the gaff."

Griff stopped next at a counter where players were taking turns bombarding a big stuffed tomcat that was perched on a stand next the back canvas. Every now and then, somebody scored a direct hit that flattened the huge cat, but nobody seemed to win. The reason was soon explained.

"Gotta knock him off!" the operator shrieked. "Gotta knock Big Tom off the stand! Here, grandpop!" — he thrust a ball into Griff's hand — "you look like an old time ball player. Why don't you try? This one's on the house."

Griff sighted on Big Tom, winged a swift pitch that caught the stuffed cat amidships and knocked it clear of the stand. By the time the object landed on the ground, the concession was doing a land office business. Players were buying throws on a three-for-a-quarter basis, all sure they could emulate the speed and skill of an old codger like Griff.

They were knocking Big Tom over when we left, but still nobody but Griff could sweep him off the perch. Griff told us why, when we were safely along the Midway.

"The cat is weighted at the bottom," Griff explained, "so heavily that you can knock it down, but never off."

"Never off? But you knocked it off."

"Never off," repeated Griff, "if the cat is set where it should be, against a pin at the front of the shelf. But to encourage trade, the operator sometimes sets the cat at a spot a few inches back. Then, when you knock it down, it will topple off the back of the shelf, since it is overbalanced."

"Then the operator recognized you and set the gaff for you to win?"

"You are catching on quickly, chump," expressed Griff. "Excuse me, I mean chum. Yes, like the Bucket Game, Big Tom is tried and true. When a game never grows old, you know it's got something. Still, new ones do keep cropping up. I'll show you."

Griff took us to a most curious contrivance. Behind a counter was a large pedestal from which a stream of air blew steadily upward, keeping a hundred or more ping-pong balls floating in constant circulation. The thing was fascinating to watch, the balls being literally balanced on the continual current. However, since they were always getting in each other's way, the result was a swirl in which balls would drop down into a vortex, then get blown up again. Hence the whole mass was in a haphazard, ever shifting formation.

The coy girl behind the counter took a net and dipped it into a whirl of balls. The net was transparent, so you saw that it went in empty before it came out bringing a ball. The girl took the ball from the net, showed a number that was stamped on it. She smiled.

"See how lucky I am?" The girl said. "Number Nine. That's one of the low numbers" — she gestured to a chart — "and you'd have gotten a big prize if you'd picked this ball. Why don't you try?"

Griff nodded, so we tried, after the girl had tossed the Nine back into the swirl. But every ball we netted — at a dime a ball — had a number higher than ten. Those high numbers just didn't count. We couldn't even win a tin whistle.

"Don't tell us that game is gaffed, Griff," we argued as we walked away. "It was just bad luck. The girl picked a good one, only we didn't."

"That," stated Griff, "was skill — not chance."

"You mean it wasn't a game of chance?"

"The Blower, as it is familiarly known," declared Griff, "is not a game of chance, because the customer has no chance. Behind the counter,

the girl was able to dip down deep into the whirl of ping-pong balls. That's where the low numbers stay."

"You mean they don't blow as high as the bigger numbers? Why not, Griff?"

"Because, my boy, they are previously treated with a hypodermic syringe. Not doped in the usual fashion, though they are given a shot of mercury, which allows them to balance and behave normally in the air-current — except that they keep low. Low numbers — stay low! Then the simsps can't reach them."

Griff was still chuckling over the Blower and its ways when we stopped beside a platform where customers were tossing dimes on cigarette packs that were lying there. All the packs were of the sort that had a big printed circle on the side. The object was to land a coin there.

"Here's your chance to be lucky!" the grifter told the customers. "Get your cigarettes at a dime a carton! Lay a dime completely in the circle and win a carton of cigarettes."

Those dimes just wouldn't stay in the circle. Always, they slid over the edge and a good many of them flopped off the pack entirely. The platform was nearly carpeted with dimes when we left.

"A nice gaff," nodded Griff, approvingly. "Sort of factory-made. Whoever invented cellophane must have wanted to help out the carney grifters. There's just too much slide; a dime never will stop inside the circle."

As a contrast between the new and old, Griff steered us to another cigarette game, one we'd often seen before. Packs of cigarettes were stand on little glass shelves and the game was to knock them off with corks fired from a pop-gun.

We tried our marksmanship and missed with surprising regularity. Just as you'd get the feel of a gun, you'd find your aim was off worse than ever. The corks varied in weight, but after you'd caught onto that, you still couldn't score many hits. At last Griff gave the operator a wink.

"Hold the gun away from you," Griff suggested, "and then look straight along the barrel."

You could see it easily. Somebody had put the gun in a vise and bent the barrel ever so slightly. What it did to your aim was plenty. The better the marksman, the more it hurt.

"And that," Griff decided, "is the neatest gaff along the Midway."

We'd found out one thing from old Griff, the Grifter. The more you see of carnival games, the more you recognize the odds against you. Don't be deceived by occasional winners. They are almost invariably "shills" working with the concessions.

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

The **AUTOMOBILE HEALTH PLAN RACKET**

I'VE GOTTEN A SHORT TERM LEASE ON THE BIG GARAGE AT BRIGSTON WALTER!

AUTOMOBILE HEALTH PLAN CLUB

THAT'S GREAT, NOW THE SALESMEN CAN WORK THE AREA FOR FIFTY MILES AROUND!

UNLESS YOUR CAR HAS THE NEW SHOW ROOM SHINE STILL ON IT, YOU WOULD HAVE LOVED THE A. H. P.'S POLICY! MOST CARS ON THE ROAD TODAY COULD STAND A VALVE JOB ON A NEW SET OF PLUGS... OR PERHAPS THE TOP OF YOUR ALMOST-NEW CONVERTIBLE IS GETTING WORN? WOULDN'T IT BE NICE IF YOU COULD BUY A REASONABLE CHEAP POLICY TO COVER THESE ALL TOO FREQUENT REPAIRS? THE AUTOMOBILE HEALTH PLAN INSURANCE COMPANY OFFERED JUST SUCH A POLICY... AND HAD NO TROUBLE SELLING IT!

THAT'S RIGHT, HERE A FEW MECHANICS, THROW SOME PAINT ON THE PLACE AND MOVE IN OUR NICE SHINY TEST MACHINES! YOU KNOW, WALTER...

I'LL DO EVERYTHING BUT HANG A STETHOSCOPE AROUND THE MECHANICS' NECK!

MEANWHILE IN THE FIELD SQUADS OF TRAINED BELLRINGERS WENT TO WORK...

THERE T IS BOYS! FREE MOTOR REPAIRS AND BREAKDOWN SERVICE FOR A Lousy ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS EVERY THREE YEARS! GET OUT AND SELL IT!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THE SALESMEN WENT TO WORK WITH A WILL... THEY HAD A BIG PACKAGE TO SELL... AND SOME OF THEM BOUGHT THE POLICY THEMSELVES...

ON THE LEVEL, MR. BRIGGS? I BOUGHT A POLICY MYSELF! I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY DO IT, BUT YOU CAN GO OVER AND LOOK AT OUR MOTOR CLINIC FOR YOURSELF!

IT SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD DEAL!

I'M SOLO, NOW ABOUT YOU HARRY?

I KNOW I NEED A CARBON AND VALVE JOB, ED! WHAT CAN I LOSE?

THE PREMIUMS ROLLED INTO THE CENTRAL OFFICE... SALESMEN SOLD THE POLICY AS FAST AS THEY COULD FILL OUT THE FORMS...

OVER NINE HUNDRED POLICIES THIS MORNING WITH A HUNDRED DOLLAR CHECK WITH EACH! HOW LONG CAN IT LAST?

WELL, THE RENT IS PAID ON THE GARAGES FOR SIXTY DAYS... THAT GIVES US TIME TO MAKE EXPENSES PLUS A NICE PROFIT!

FUNNY THING IS LAWSON, THIS SCHEME MIGHT WORK LEGITIMATELY IF WE WANTED TO WORK IT THAT WAY!

LEGITIMATELY? NO... WE'LL GRAB OUR EAST BUCK AND LAM!

LAN CLINIC

USE SOME OF THAT MONEY TO OPEN A FEW MOTOR CLINICS IN THIS AREA! PAY ONE MONTH'S RENT IF POSSIBLE, AND MOVE CREWS IN THERE!

MOTOR CLINICS BLOSSOMED THROUGHOUT THE EAST... AND MECHANICS DAWDLED OVER MOTOR JOBS WHILE POLICY HOLDERS WAITED THEIR TURN...

BUT I'VE WAITED A MONTH FOR THAT RING JOB ALREADY! WHEN CAN YOU GET AROUND TO IT?

I CALLED THE HEAD OFFICE FOR PARTS MR. SMITH! THEY'LL BE HERE IN A DAY OR TWO!

LEARN TO DANCE

IN YOUR OWN HOME... in 1 WEEK... DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK!

**Sensational New "Tell-and-Show" Way
Enables You To Learn A Complete,
New Dance Each Evening!**

**NOW
DANCE
THE**

**WALTZ
TANGO**

**FOX-TROT RHUMBA
SAMBA CONGA
LINDY JITTERBUG
SQUARE DANCES**

The new speed method makes learning to dance so simple, quick and easy... you will master each dance in one single week! You'll be able to say "good-bye" to loneliness and "hello" to fun and romance! Of course, if you enjoy being a well-known throbber, quick self-teaching method is not for you! But if you want to get out of your cell and start living... send for the Complete Course... **DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!** You have nothing to lose... it's popular and guaranteed to give you a new... For only a price... we include without extra charge a wonderful book of Square Dances.



A picture of a dancing couple shows you each step and movement... you follow the first print drawings for every step... of the complete dance... simple... fast... and... All together this new speed method makes it easy and quick to learn to dance.



BE POPULAR... GET MORE FUN OUT OF LIFE

The good dances have the best music... get the most excitement! Here's your chance to own this new, complete, short 4 of course

to expert dancing. And **DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK!** if it isn't everything we say it is! The bonus book of Square Dances is yours!

**COMPLETE COURSE OF
DANCE INSTRUCTION ONLY \$1.98**

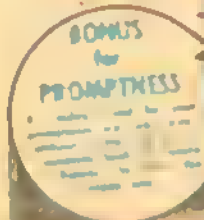
MAIL DOUBLE REFUND COUPON NOW!

PICKWICK CO., Dept. 627-8C

Box 463, Midtown Station, New York 18, N. Y.

Send at once the Complete Course of Expert Instruction. You will immediately receive the Book of Square Dances. On delivery you will get your money \$1.98 plus postage. If not delighted and refunded within 7 days, may request the Double Refund for \$3.96 AND CO. (THIS IS THE MAXIMUM PRICE) for Book of Square Dances to come to keep.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
EASY MONEY! Send payment now and get it by 10% discount. No C.O.D. \$1.98 or \$3.96 C.D.D.



DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

You must learn to dance, in the privacy of your own home, in 7 days, or you may return the Complete Course of Dance Instruction for immediate refund of double your purchase price. The Bonus Book of Square Dances is yours to keep.

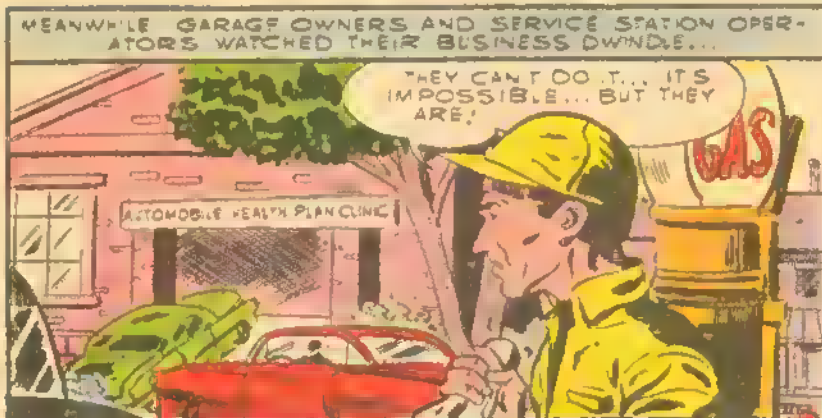
PICKWICK CO.

Box 463, Midtown Station, New York 18, N. Y.

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

MEANWHILE GARAGE OWNERS AND SERVICE STATION OPERATORS WATCHED THEIR BUSINESS DWINDLE...

THEY CAN'T DO IT... IT'S IMPOSSIBLE... BUT THEY ARE!



LIKE THE SONG SAYS, AL, "THEM DAYS ARE GONE FOR- EVER!" NO MORE REPAIR BILLS FOR YOURS TRULY!

I DUNNO, GEORGE, THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY ABOUT IT! THERE'S GOTTA BE!



I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A LONG TIME, GEORGE, HOW'S IT RUNNING?

I NEED WORK ON IT AL, BUT I HAVE A POLICY WITH THE A.H.P.; THEY'RE GOING TO DO IT FREE OF CHARGE!



...AND THE WEEKS PASSED! THE HUNDRED DOLLAR CHECKS ROLLED IN AND THE SHINY MOTOR CLINICS HUMMED WITH ACTION... BUT MORE THAN COMPETING GARAGE OWNERS WERE BEGINNING TO WONDER...

...AND YOU SAY YOU'VE WAITED FIVE WEEKS FOR A MINOR REPAIR JOB, BILL?

THAT'S RIGHT, I DON'T THINK THOSE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO FIX MY CAR AT ALL!



I'LL FIND OUT FOR YOU BILL! IF ANYONE CAN GET THE LOWDOWN ON THE A.H.P. OUTFIT, THE RACKET SQUAD CAN!



...AND THAT CALL FROM THE LAWYER BROUGHT OUR OFFICE INTO THE PICTURE...

THE A.H.P.? I NEVER HEARD OF THEM, BUT IT SOUNDS PROMY TO ME TOO! WE'LL GO TO WORK ON IT IMMEDIATELY!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

MY NAME IS SIDNEY RADNER AND I COVER THE COUNTRY EXPOSING CROOKED GAMBLERS. THEY'RE FOUND EVERYWHERE, EVEN IN BOWLING ALLEYS WHICH ARE LITERALLY ON THE LEVEL. AND HERE IS HOW SUCH CROOKS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HONEST BOWLERS... THE STORY OF TWO GAMBLERS, TIM AGNEW AND JERRY GREBS.

GAMBLERS NEVER GAMBLE. THEY PREFER SURE MONEY WHEN MAKING A BET. THEIR MOTTO IS..

HOOK LINE and SUCKER!



THAT RAY DOZO SURE LOOKS LIKE THE COMING CHAMP. JERRY THERE HE GOES WITH ANOTHER STRIKE!

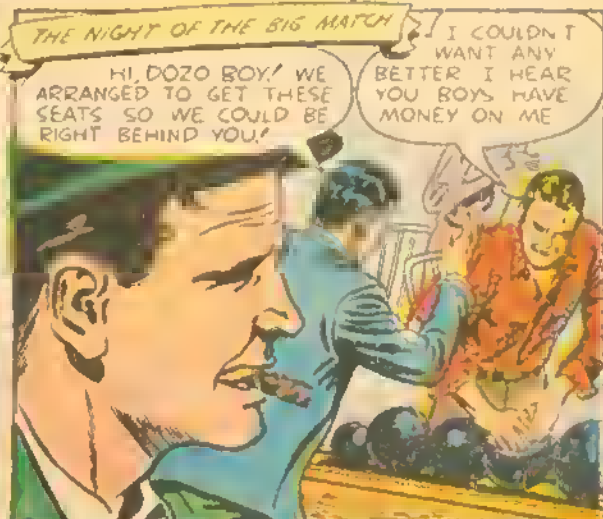
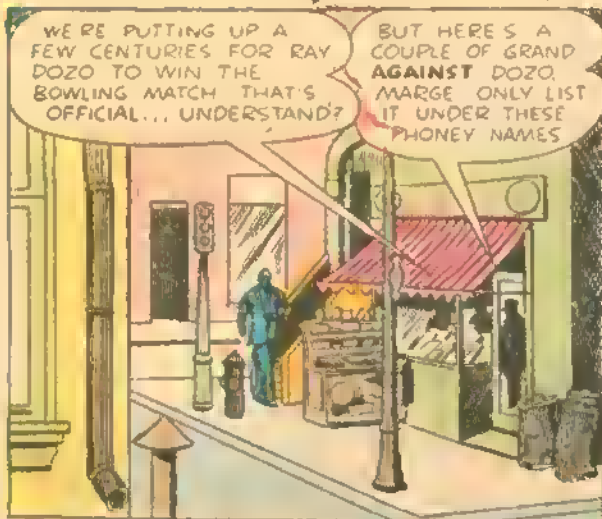
YEAH TIM BUT I'M MORE INTERESTED IN HIS WIND-UP. WATCH WHEN HE BOWLS AGAIN!



SEE HOW HE STARTS CLEAR BACK AT THOSE CHAIRS? WHY, HE'D BE SITTING IN OUR LAPS IF WE WERE THERE!

I GET IT, JERRY LET'S GO AND PUT SOME DOUGH ON THE BIG MATCH.

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



NOW DOZO CAN'T EVEN MAKE A SPARE!



I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GETTING ME, BOYS I JUST SEEM TO LOSE STRIDE

TAKE IT EASY YOU'LL PULL THROUGH



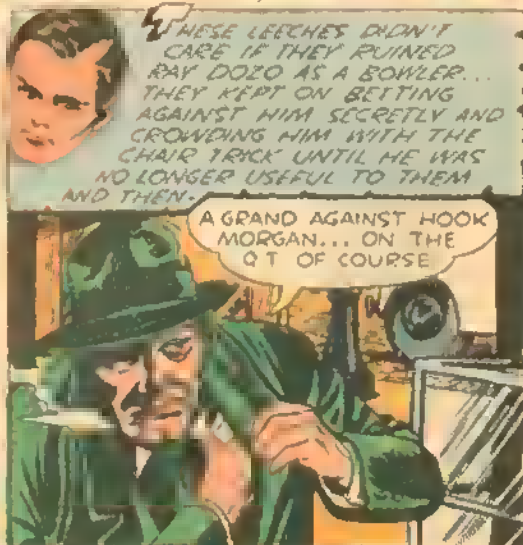
OOOOPS! I MUST HAVE SLIPPED!

THERE GOES THE MATCH!



AT FIVE TO ONE AGAINST DOZO YOU REALLY TOOK THE BOOKIES UNDER THOSE PHONEY NAMES YOU USED.

RIGHT AND HERE'S A LITTLE SWEETENING FOR YOU, SUGAR, JUST TO FORGET IT!



THESE LEECHES DIDN'T CARE IF THEY RUINED RAY DOZO AS A BOWLER... THEY KEPT ON BETTING AGAINST HIM SECRETLY AND CROWDING HIM WITH THE CHAIR TRICK UNTIL HE WAS NO LONGER USEFUL TO THEM AND THEN...

A GRAND AGAINST HOOK MORGAN... ON THE QT OF COURSE



AGAINST HOOK MORGAN. WHY HE'S SURE TO WIN THAT MATCH AT THE CAPITOL TONIGHT

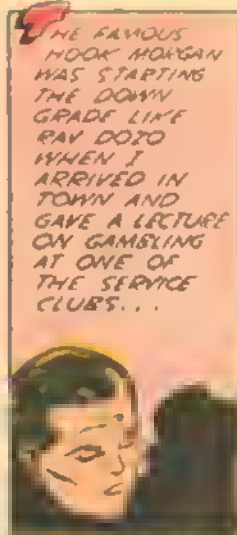
NO HE WON'T WE WERE THERE THIS AFTERNOON AHEAD OF HIM!



THAT NIGHT

HOOK MORGAN DOESN'T HAVE HIS FAMOUS HOOK TONIGHT!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



THE FAMOUS HOOK MORGAN WAS STARTING THE DOWN GRADE LIKE RAY DOZO WHEN I ARRIVED IN TOWN AND GAVE A LECTURE ON GAMBLING AT ONE OF THE SERVICE CLUBS...



A GREAT TALK, SID! MAYBE YOU CAN SOLVE A LOCAL MYSTERY SOMEBODY SEEMS TO BE PUTTING THE FIX ON THE BOWLING MATCHES THERE'S A MATCH TONIGHT IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LOOK IN

I CERTAINLY WOULD!



THAT'S HOOK MORGAN. HE DEPENDS ON A TERRIFIC HOOK SHOT DOWN THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALLEY...



ONLY HIS HOOK HASN'T BEEN WORKING LATELY SEE WHAT I MEANT COULD HOOK BE THROWING THESE GAMES?

LET'S FIND OUT WHO HAS BEEN BETTING AGAINST HIM.



TIM AGNEW AND JERRY GREBS A COUPLE OF LOCAL HOT-SHOTS

WE'LL TALK TO THE GIRL AFTER THEY LEAVE



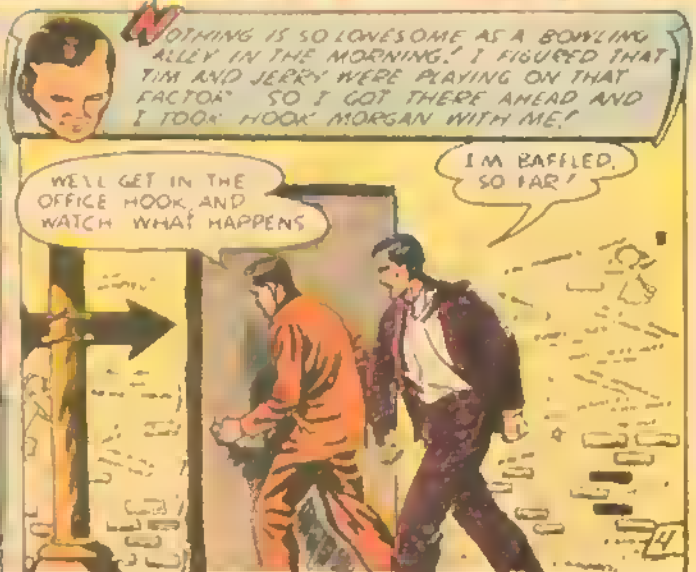
HANDLING BETS IS ILLEGAL TO BEGIN WITH AND FIXED BETS ARE ALL THE WORSE!

I KNOW THAT BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TIM AND JERRY CAN FIX THAT BOWLING MATCH AT THE REGAL ALLEY TOMORROW.



WHEN THEY PUT THIS CASH AGAINST HOOK MORGAN. THEY SAID THEY'D GET TO THE ALLEY BEFORE HE DID THAT'S ALL!

THAT'S ENOUGH TOMORROW WE'LL GET TO THE ALLEY BEFORE THEY DO!

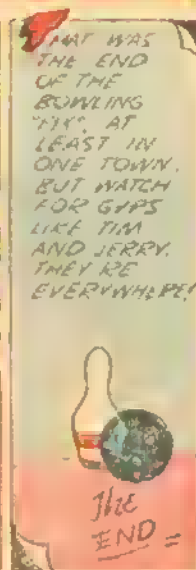


NOTHING IS SO LONESOME AS A BOWLING ALLEY IN THE MORNING. I FIGURED THAT TIM AND JERRY WERE PLAYING ON THAT FACTOR SO I GOT THERE AHEAD AND I TOOK HOOK MORGAN WITH ME!

WE'LL GET IN THE OFFICE HOOK AND WATCH WHAT HAPPENS

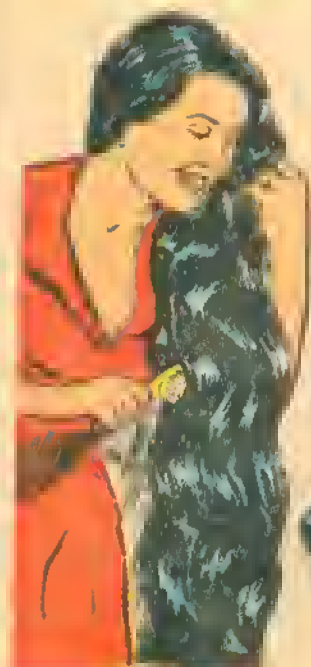
I'M BAFLED, SO FAR!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION



THE FAMOUS JUELENE SYSTEM GUARANTEE

LOVELIER HAIR IN 7 DAYS OR YOUR MONEY BACK



Fine special daily Juelene System care helps PREVENT, DANDRUFFY DULL, DRY, BRITTLE, ITCHY SCALP, BURN'T HAIR, through lubrication, massage & stimulation.

Being a woman your hair is in need of either waving, marcelling or pin curling regularly. Be certain to give your hair and scalp the special care and to use the special LANOIN formula which you get with everything so pin curls wave rest your hair. This formula melts easily, waterproofs the hair, and at the same time helps to hold a waving or styling longer. By retaining perspiration it not only keeps your hair looking lovelier, more lustrous but helps to prevent dry, itching, dandruff, dull hair conditions.



Give Yourself This Treatment Just Once

There's All We Ask—Just One Try—You Will Marvel At The Results. You Will Be Absolutely Amazed Or It Doesn't Cost You One Penny. Your Hair Care With special JUELENE Formula May Be The Answer To Your Hair And Scalp Problem.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE

While there is something new under the sun almost every day. Beauticians, Engrail, Hairdressers and Dermatologists are all familiar with the use of LANOIN. In recent years it has been believed that CHOLESTEROL is the active ingredient of LANOIN. CHOLESTEROL is an ingredient found in all vegetables, in all animals and in our own bodies. It is now possible for chemists to produce a synthetic CHOLESTEROL which makes it possible to use CHOLESTEROL in this Special Hair and Scalp System. Your hair grows from the follicles located in the tissues of your scalp. The condition of your hair depends upon the normal health of your scalp. The LANOIN Cream Shampoo which you receive with the treatment is to be used as a Shampoo to cleanse the hair and scalp of dirt, dried perspiration, grease, etc.

YOU GET EVERYTHING the JAR of JUELENE SYSTEM SCALP and HAIR SUB-PICANT, the LANOIN CREAM SHAMPOO, the DH 12 FORMULA containing CHOLESTEROL PLUS the SPECIAL LANOIN COMPOUND ALL A REAL BARGAIN AT \$4.00 BUT all YOU PAY is ONLY \$2.98 plus postage FOR EVERYTHING. FOLLOW the JUELENE SYSTEM DIRECTIONS you receive with your package OF THESE 4 FORMULAS and YOU WILL BLESS THE DAY YOU BEGAN and TRIED THIS PROPER WAY.

SEND NO MONEY MAIL YOUR COUPON NOW
EVERY CENT BACK IF NOT THE BEST YOU EVER USED.

DO NOT SEND THIS COUPON TO ANY OTHER ADDRESS THAN THE ONE GIVEN BELOW

JUEL COMPANY, Dept. E-533
31 West 47th Street, New York 36, N. Y.

YOU GET FULL DIRECTIONS ON HOW TO USE EVERYTHING, PLUS A REGULAR \$2 LESSON ON HOW TO PIN CURL OVERNITE WAVE AND STYLE YOUR HAIR BY JUEL'S HAIR STYLIST

**100%
GUARANTEE
MONEY BACK IF
NOT SATISFIED!
YOU CAN'T LOSE!**



**SPECIAL
3 MONTH
\$2.98
TREATMENT**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

ZONE _____

STATE _____

NOTICE: YOU GET ENOUGH OF EVERYTHING TO LAST AT LEAST 3 MONTHS. You get full easy directions of fine daily hair and scalp care as well as hints and tips on the use of fine LANOIN and CHOLESTEROL formulae. A Shampoo and Styling your hair. A 100% MONEY BACK GUARANTEE will be included in your package along with the JUELENE SYSTEM Formulae on Hair and Scalp Care. In use since 1928. The JUELENE SYSTEM Formulae have been used by more than one half million women. YOU MUST BE PLEASED OR MONEY BACK.

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

The EMPLOYMENT AGENCY RACKET

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES PLAY A NECESSARY PART IN OUR LIVES TODAY... BUT SOME SHAOY OUT FITS GET DOLLAR HUNGRY AND MILK THE PUBLIC FOR JOB FEES--AND DON'T DELIVER THE JOB! THIS IS ONE WAY AN AGENCY EMPLOYEE OPERATED...

THIS AGENCY WAS LOCATED IN MID-TOWN MANHATTEN! THE JOB FEE HAD TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE BEFORE THE AGENCY WOULD SEND A MAN ON THE JOB...

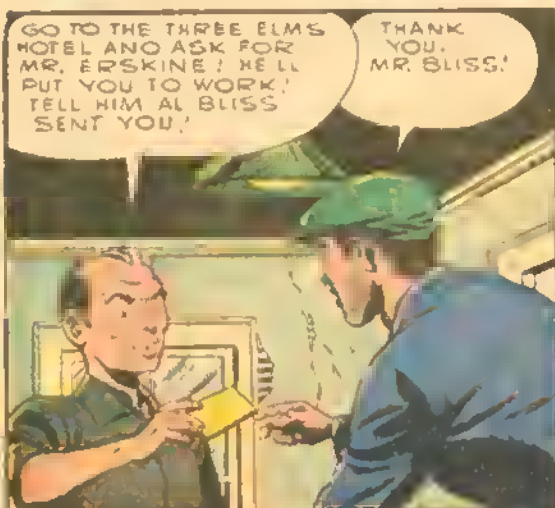
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU PAY \$50 IN ADVANCE! THIS IS A NICE JOB AT A COUNTRY HOTEL!

THAT'S NEARLY ALL THE MONEY I HAVE MR. BLISS! I HOPE I GET THE JOB ALL RIGHT!



GO TO THE THREE ELMS HOTEL AND ASK FOR MR. ERSKINE! HE'LL PUT YOU TO WORK! TELL HIM AL BLISS SENT YOU!

THANK YOU, MR. BLISS!



AT THE THREE ELMS HOTEL, MR. ERSKINE HIRED THE MAN...

MR. BLISS SENT YOU, EH? ALL RIGHT, YOU START WORK THIS MORNING! YOU'LL SLEEP IN THE EMPLOYEE'S BUILDING!

YOU WON'T REGRET THIS, MR. ERSKINE!



NO, MR. ERSKINE DIDN'T REGRET IT... THEN! BUT THE MAN HE'D HIRED REGRETTED IT THREE DAYS LATER...

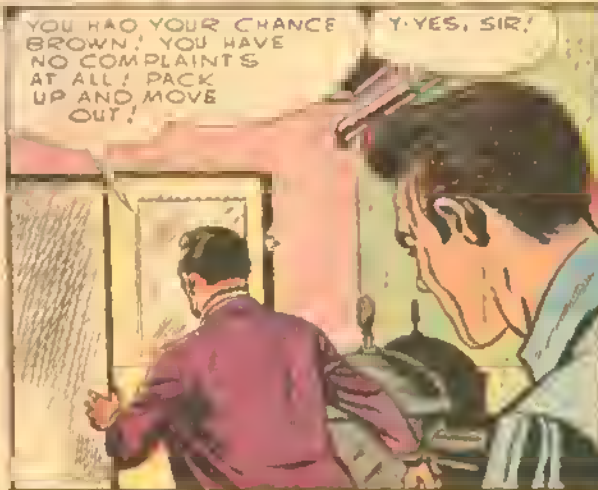
I'VE HAD SEVERAL COMPLAINTS ABOUT YOUR WORK--BROWN! I'M AFRAID WE'LL HAVE TO LET YOU GO!

COM-PLAINTS? MR. ERSKINE, I PAID FOR THIS JOB! YOU CAN'T...



YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE BROWN! YOU HAVE NO COMPLAINTS AT ALL! PACK UP AND MOVE OUT!

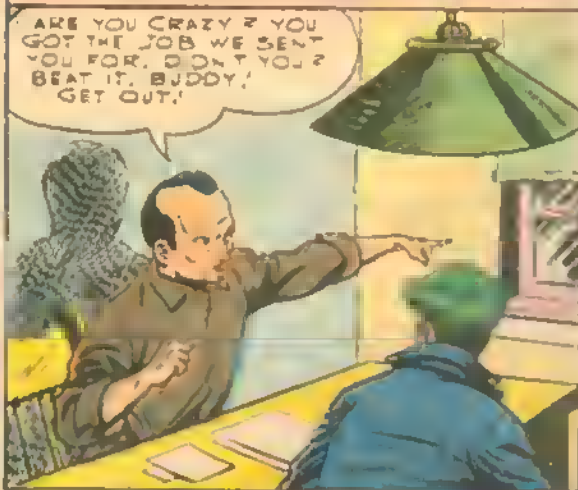
Y-YES, SIR!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

BROWN RETURNED TO NEW YORK... DETERMINED TO GET THE AGENCY FEE BACK... BUT HE HAD NO LUCK.

'ARE YOU CRAZY? YOU GOT THE JOB WE SENT YOU FOR. DIDN'T YOU? BEAT IT, BUDDY! GET OUT!'



LATER THAT DAY... ANOTHER JOB APPLICANT APPEARED... PAID HIS FEE AND WAS TOLD TO REPORT TO THE SAME PLACE...

THAT'S RIGHT ROGERS! REPORT TO MR. ERSKINE AT THE 'THREE ELMS' HOTEL! HE'S GOT A PAINTER'S JOB OPEN! SAY MR. BLISS SENT YOU!

THANKS, MR. BLISS!



AT THE HOTEL ONCE MORE...

YOU'LL FIND THE PAINT BRUSHES AND THINGS IN THE UTILITY ROOM. YOU HAVE THE JOB ROGERS!

FOR HOW LONG MR. ERSKINE? IS THIS A STEADY JOB?

OF COURSE, MR. ROGERS! JUST SO YOU DO THE WORK!



I'M FRED? AFTER ONLY FOUR DAYS? BUT I PAID FOR A STEADY JOB!

DON'T GIVE ME ANY BACKTALK ROGERS! YOUR WORK DOESN'T SATISFY THE MANAGEMENT SO YOU'RE THROUGH!



I'M NOT THROUGH, ERSKINE. YOU ARE! YOUR SWEET LITTLE RACKET WITH AL BLISS IS OVER! I O'MALLEY OF THE RACKET SQUAD!

THE RACKET SQUAD? BLISS SAID WE'D NEVER GET CAUGHT!



THIS IS O'MALLEY! MAKE THE ARREST ON AL BLISS! NO, THE AGENCY WASN'T IN ON IT. ERSKINE UP HERE WOULD CALL BLISS FOR A MAN AND THEN FREE HIM AND HIRE ANOTHER! THEY SPLIT THE FEE, OF COURSE!



THE END

GIVEN

PREMIUMS - CASH



BOYS
GIRLS
LADIES
ACT
NOW
Mail
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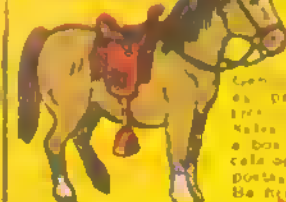
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